Shortly after the war, my father and I left our temporary apartment,
and the family of my late mother took me in
OH, YOU'RE ERI-CHAN, FROM THE TATSUNO FAMILY?
MY, HOW YOU'VE GROWN!
THE HOUSE IS JUST UP THAT HILL.
THERE'S A GHOST THERE!
A WHITE GHOST, WITH A CAT!
HEY!
Kinta!

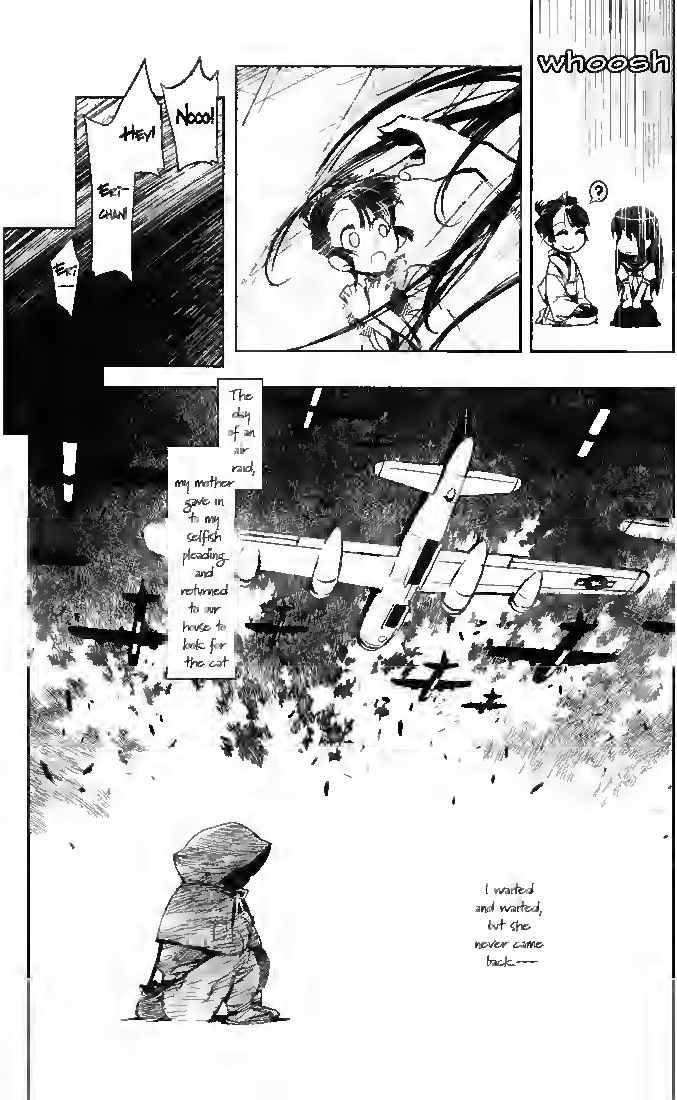
... A WHITE GHOST?

KOIYURI
AWASE
HIROKI HIGASHIKAWA

My relatives sat in a circle in a tatami room discussing who would be the second wife of my father,
who had been adopted into their family when he married my mother.
THE WIFE'S NAME TO THE HUSBAND AND WAS MOVED TO THE WIFE'S FAMILY REGISTER IN THEIR CASE. HE
FAMILY REGISTER IN THEIR CASE. HE
...SO...
SUO WILL HAVE A ROUGH TIME OF IT IF HE REMAINS A WIDOWER FOREVER.
WE NEED TO GIVE HIM A NEW WIFE THROUGH KOBURIAWASE TO TAKE CARE OF HIM.
.....

Apparently, "kotsunasake" is when a younger sibling takes the place of a partner who has died
BUT THAT WOULD BE HIS FORMER WIFE'S SISTER, YES?
ISN'T SHE A BIT TOO YOUNG?
EVERYONE IS MARRYING YOUNG THESE DAYS AND I DOUBT ANYONE ELSE WOULD HAVE HER.
SATSUO ALREADY KNOWS HER WELL.
AND HE'S AGREED TO IT.
IT'S THE PERFECT SOLUTION.
That woman, the sister of my late mother —
YOU'D LIKE THAT, WOULDN'T YOU, MIYAKO?

looked heart-stoppingly similar to my mother
HELLO, ERI-CHAN
I'M
GOING TO BE YOUR NEW MOTHER.


Noooo!
Hey!
Eri-chan!
Eri...
whoosh
?
The day of an air raid, my mother gave in to my selfish pleading and returned to our house to look for the cat
I waited and waited, but she never came back----

There was no trace of anyone in the burnt remains of our home. That was the end of it
A young child, I stood there, frozen, before the cat's remains.

STARTLED HER LIKE THAT
—— YOU REALLY SHOULDN'T HAVE

I WAS JUST SO HAPPY
ERI-CHAN IS EXACTLY THE SORT OF CHILD I IMAGINED.

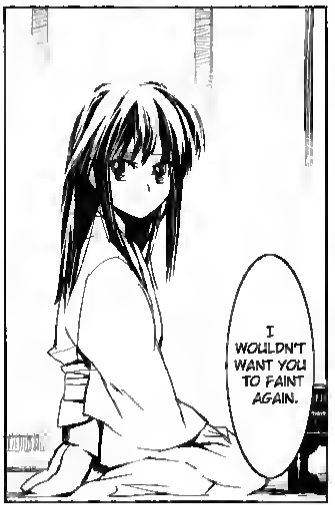
MORNING,
ERI-CHAN.
.....
I'M VERY SORRY ABOUT YESTERDAY.
SO PLEASE EAT UP! DON'T BE SHY.

sharasara
SMACK
IT'S TOO EARLY IN THE MORNING FOR ME TO EAT ALL THIS
THANK YOU FOR THE MEAL.
?
I WAS SO SURE YOU'D HAVE A HEARTY APPETITE

....
SORRY, BUT I'M A LIGHT EATER.
BRUNI
EXCUSE ME, IS ANYONE HOME? I'M FROM THE ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY
I'VE COME TO TAKE A LOOK AT YOUR METER.

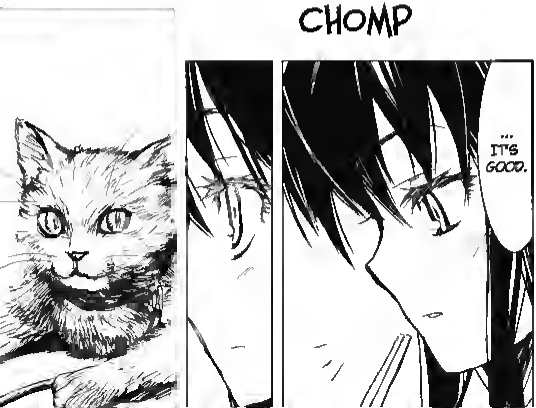
IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT.
YOU HADN'T EATEN SINCE YESTERDAY.
ALL RIGHT?

Excuse me!
MAY I BORROW A STEPLADDER?
Oh!
Yes!


I WOULDN'T WANT YOU TO FAINT AGAIN.

EAT UP.

CHOMP



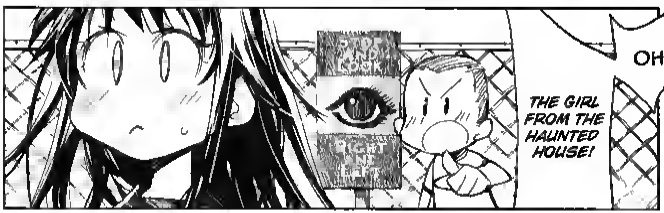
FOUR KILOWATT-HOURS OVER. I'LL LEAVE IT HERE.
THANK YOU.
OH!
I'M SO GLAD!
YOU ATE IT CLEAN
A-
ANYWAY,
WHY IS THAT CAT TIED UP?

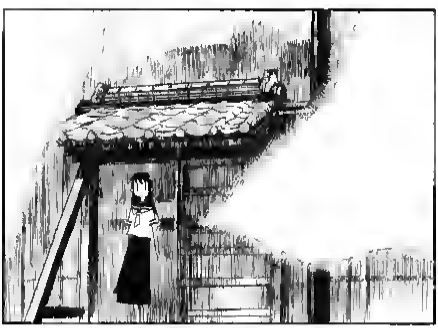
IT WAS BORN WITH POOR EYESIGHT.
AND THERE ARE MORE CARS AROUND THESE DAYS, AREN'T THERE?
THE POOR THING.
IT MUST WANT TO GO OUTSIDE.
SO THAT'S WHY THE DOOR IS ALWAYS CLOSED.

... IT HAS ME HERE.
C'MERE, PONKO.
TATUMP
WE HAVE A PRETTY GOOD TIME ALL ON OUR OWN
WE'VE ALWAYS BEEN TOGETHER.

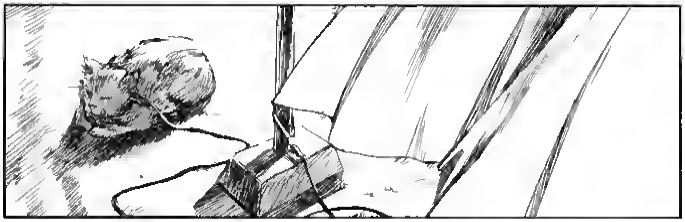
I'M GOING FOR A SHORT WALK.
HAVE FUN.
BUT DON'T GO TOO FAR.
....
ERI-CHAN.

...I
LIKE YOU.
I LOOKED FORWARD TO HAVING YOU COME LIVE HERE WITH ME.
....
I'M GOING NOW.


OH!
THE GIRL FROM THE HAUNTED HOUSE!



Hey! Kinta!



... A WHITE
GHOST.

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Scanned by: Sailor Avalon
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lililicious@hanmail.net, http://lililicious.net

つぼみ
tsu bo mi
*あまくてやさしい百合アンソロジー*
vol.1
釣巻和
大朋めがね
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はっとりみつる
森永みるく
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